

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 10475 280339Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /032 W

----- 097079

R 271824Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1079

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, WB, US, UK, FR, TR

SUBJECT: BERLIN CHARTERS

REF: A. STATE 142952 B. LONDON 9342 C. PARIS 16294

1. PAN AMERICAN OPERATIONS OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED US THAT UKG APPROVED PAN AMERICAN'S BERLIN/LONDON CHARTER PROGRAM FOR JULY INVOLVING APPROXIMATELY 13 ROUND-TRIP FLIGHTS. IN A LATER DISCUSSION, ACTING BRITISH CAA CARTER CONFIRMED BRITISH APPROVAL OF THE JULY FLIGHTS, POINTING OUT, HOWEVER, THAT IN ITS RESPONSE TO PAA, THE UK DEPARTMENT OF TRADE MADE CLEAR THAT THIS ACTION IN NO WAY IMPLIED FUTURE APPROVALS WOULD BE AUTOMATIC. CARTER SAID THE UKG INTENDED TO ACT SWIFTLY ON FUTURE PAA APPLICATIONS, BUT WOULD REQUIRE COPIES OF CHARTER CONTRACTS FOR EACH FLIGHT.

2. CARTER SAID HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INFORM US COUNTERPART THAT IT WAS BRITISH POLICY TO "ACCEPT" ALL BERLIN ORIGIN ALLIED CHARTER FLIGHTS, PROVIDED SUCH FLIGHTS MET UK CHARTER REGULATIONS AND DID NOT "SERIOUSLY DAMAGE THE SCHEDULED SERVICES." CARTER SURMISED, THERE-
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PAGE 02 BONN 10475 280339Z

FORE, THAT UKG WOULD BE WATCHING PAN AMERICAN PRICE

LEVELS VERY CLOSELY ON FUTURE APPLICATIONS. HE WAS HOPEFUL, HOWEVER, THAT SINCE LONDON HAD FULLY FOCUSED ON THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THIS QUESTION, NO FURTHER SERIOUS PROBLEMS WOULD ARISE. HE CONCURRED IN OUR REQUEST THAT SUBJECT BE HANDLED IN CAA FORUM HERE, SHOULD THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS ARISE.

3. IN A RELATED CHARTER MATTER, PAN AMERICAN TOLD US ON JUNE 24 THAT IT HAD SUBMITTED A WRITTEN APPLICATION TO FRENCH CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES FOR LANDING APPROVAL FOR 26 IT FLIGHTS TO PARIS OPERATING FROM MID-SEPTEMBER THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR. PAA BERLIN WILL BE FOLLOWING THE APPLICATION CLOSELY AND WILL KEEP US INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. EMB CAA RAISED PAA'S APPLICATION INFORMALLY WITH FRENCH CAA LASSUS, WHO RESPONDED ALONG THE LINES REF C. LASSUS STRESSED FRENCH APPROVAL OF AERO AMERICA'S CHARTER PROGRAM AS CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT GOF WAS NOT OPPOSED TO CHARTER BUSINESS, AND WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO TAKE A FORTH-COMING APPROACH TO BERLIN ORIGIN FLIGHTS. AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED, LASSUS SAID HE WOULD KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH ON THIS MATTER, AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO REVIEW IT ONCE AGAIN IN BONN SHOULD ANY PROBLEMS DEVELOP WITH PAN AMERICAN'S PENDING APPLICATION.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE QUESTION OF PAA'S PARIS AND LONDON CHARTERS HAS REACHED, AT LEAST, A SHORT-TERM EQUILIBRIUM, WE SUSPECT WE WILL ENCOUNTER ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS. DEPARTMENT MAY BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING THAT UNTIL 1973 BRITISH CAA KEPT TIGHT CONTROL OF PRICE LEVELS FOR LONDON BOUND BERLIN CHARTERS, INCLUDING SETTING A MINIMUM PRICE IN ALL CLEARANCE AUTHORIZATIONS. SINCE LONDON CHARTER MARKET IS NO LONGER LARGELY SERVED BY BRITISH CARRIERS WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THE BRITISH PROPOSED SOME SORT OF PRICE MONITORING BY CAA'S. CAA PRACTICE ON APPROVAL OF CHARTERS TO FRG DESTINATIONS MAY ALSO BE OF INTEREST IN THIS CONTEXT. FOR MANY YEARS PAA AND BA HAVE BEEN GIVEN FIRST REFUSAL RIGHTS ON ALL SUCH APPLICATIONS FROM SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS, AND PAA HAS FREQUENTLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 10475 280339Z

TAKEN THE BUSINESS. APPLICATIONS FOR ON-LINE CHARTERS BY THE IGS CARRIERS, HOWEVER, HAVE BEEN IN ALMOST ALL CASES APPROVED.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, NEGOTIATIONS, SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, BERLIN AIR ACCESS, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN10475
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750225-1129
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975067/aaaaafpj.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 142952, 75 LONDON 9342, 75 PARIS 16294
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BERLIN CHARTERS
TAGS: EAIR, WB, US, UK, FR, PANAM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006